

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate convened the first session of the One Hundred Eleventh Congress.

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi of California was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1–S152

Measures Introduced: One hundred forty-three bills and thirteen resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1–10, 21, 31–162, S.J. Res. 1–3, S. Res. 1–8, and S. Con. Res. 1–2. **Pages S39–44**

Measures Passed:

Quorum of House and Senate: Senate agreed to S. Res. 1, informing the President of the United States that a quorum of each House is assembled. **Page S5**

Quorum of the Senate: Senate agreed to S. Res. 2, informing the House of Representatives that a quorum of the Senate is assembled. **Page S5**

Counting of Electoral Votes: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 1, to provide for the counting on January 8, 2009, of the electoral votes for President and Vice President of the United States. **Page S5**

Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies: Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 2, extending the life of the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies. **Page S6**

Hour of Daily Meeting of the Senate: Senate agreed to S. Res. 3, fixing the hour of daily meeting of the Senate. **Page S6**

Secretary of the Interior Compensation and Emoluments: Senate passed S.J. Res. 3, ensuring that the compensation and other emoluments attached to the office of Secretary of the Interior are those which were in effect on January 1, 2005. **Pages S150–51**

Death of former Senator Claiborne de Borda Pell: Senate agreed to S. Res. 8, relative to the death

of the Honorable Claiborne de Borda Pell, former United States Senator for the State of Rhode Island. **Page S151**

Measures Considered:

Objection: Pursuant to rule XIV, paragraph 1, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, Senator Coburn objected to the introduction of a bill, to designate certain land components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to authorize certain programs and activities in the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, by Senator Bingaman. **Page S27**

Appointments:

Congressional Oversight Panel: The Chair, on behalf of the Republican Leader, pursuant to provisions of Public Law 110–343, appointed the following individual as a member of the Congressional Oversight Panel: Senator John Sununu, of New Hampshire, vice Senator Judd Gregg, of New Hampshire.

Pursuant to the order of the Senate of December 11, 2008, authorizing appointments to be made during the recess or adjournment of the Senate, the Chair lays before the Senate an appointment made on December 18, 2008, which shall be printed in the Record. **Page S150**

111th Congress—Unanimous Consent Agreements:

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that for the duration of the 111th Congress, the Ethics Committee be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate. **Page S6**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that for the duration of the 111th Congress, there be a limitation of 15 minutes each upon any roll call vote, with the warning signal to be sounded

at the midway point, beginning at the last 7½ minutes, and when roll call votes are of 10-minute duration, the warning signal be sounded at the beginning of the last 7½ minutes. **Page S6**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that during the 111th Congress, it be in order for the Secretary of the Senate to receive reports at the desk when presented by a Senator at any time during the day of the session of the Senate. **Page S6**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Majority and Minority Leaders may daily have up to 10 minutes each on each calendar day following the prayer and disposition of the reading of, or the approval of, the Journal. **Page S6**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives and his five assistants be given the privileges of the floor during the 111th Congress. **Page S6**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that, notwithstanding the provisions of rule XVIII, conference reports and statements accompanying them not be printed as Senate reports when such conference reports and statements have been printed as a House report unless specific request is made in the Senate in each instance to have such a report printed. **Page S6**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the Committee on Appropriations be authorized during the 111th Congress to file reports during adjournments or recesses of the Senate on appropriations bills, including joint resolutions, together with any accompanying notices of motions to suspend rule XVI, pursuant to rule V, for the purpose of offering certain amendments to such bills or joint resolutions, which proposed amendments shall be printed. **Page S6**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that for the duration of the 111th Congress, the Secretary of the Senate be authorized to make technical and clerical corrections in the engrossments of all Senate-passed bills and resolutions, Senate amendments to House bills and resolutions, Senate amendments to House amendments to Senate amendments to House bills or resolutions. **Page S6**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that for the duration of the 111th Congress, when the Senate is in recess or adjournment, the Secretary of the Senate is authorized to receive messages from the President of the United States, and—with the exception of House bills, joint resolutions and concurrent resolutions—messages from the House of Representatives; and that they be appropriately re-

ferred; and that the President of the Senate, the President pro tempore, and the Acting President pro tempore be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills and joint resolutions. **Page S6**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that for the duration of the 111th Congress, Senators be allowed to leave at the desk with the Journal Clerk the names of two staff members who will be granted the privilege of the floor during the consideration of the specific matter noted, and that the Sergeant-at-Arms be instructed to rotate such staff members as space allows. **Page S6**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that for the duration of the 111th Congress, it be in order to refer treaties and nominations on the day when they are received from the President, even when the Senate has no executive session that day. **Page S6**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that for the duration of the 111th Congress, Senators may be allowed to bring to the desk, bills, joint resolutions, concurrent resolutions and simple resolutions, for referral to appropriate committees. **Page S6**

Messages from the House: **Pages S30–31**

Measures Referred: **Page S31**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S31, S151**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S31**

Executive Communications: **Pages S8, S31–39**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions:
Pages S44–S150

Additional Statements: **Page S30**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S150**

Quorum Calls:

One quorum call was taken today. (Total—1)

Pages S4–5

Adjournment: Senate convened at 12:01 p.m. and adjourned, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Honorable Claiborne de Borda Pell, former United States Senator for the State of Rhode Island, in accordance with S. Res. 8, at 7:45 p.m., until 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 7, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S152.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

No committee meetings were held.